GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1801
ANSWERED ON:11.12.2008
SCHEDULED REGIONAL AIRLINES
Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has introduced the concept of scheduled regional airlines in order to increase air connectivity between smaller cities;and

(b) if so,the details of operators operating as scheduled regional airlines in the Southern Region,particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION(SHRI PRAFUL PATEL)

(a)and(b):- Yes,Sir.Directorate General of Civil Aviation(DGCA)has issued Civil Aviation Requirements for scheduled regional air transport service with a view to promote air connectivity within a region,expand air travel services for Tier II and Tier III cities and between specific regions.There are four regions identified as North,South,West,East/North-East coinciding with the Flight Information Regions(FIRs)as defined by the Airports Authority of India(AAI).The regional airlines are not permitted to operate o n category I routes.However,the regional airlines of the southern region which has 3 metros would be allowed to operate between the metros within the southern region namely Bangalore,Chennai and Hyderabad.

The Government has issued initial NOC to operate Scheduled Air Transport (Regional) Service to M/s. Star Aviation for Southern Region.The company is yet to commence its operation.